

## PROP 53 ERODES LOCAL CONTROL AND CONTAINS NO EXEMPTION FOR EMERGENCIES / NATURAL DISASTERS

Prop 53 is opposed by a broad, bipartisan coalition of organizations including California Professional Firefighters, California Chamber of Commerce, California Hospital Association, firefighters, paramedics, family farmers, environmentalists, nurses, law enforcement, and local governments because it would erode local control and jeopardize vital infrastructure improvements in communities across California.

## ERODES LOCAL CONTROL BY REQUIRING STATEWIDE VOTE FOR SOME LOCAL PROJECTS

Groups representing California's cities, counties and local water agencies, including League of California Cities and Association of California Water Agencies, all oppose Prop 53. Under this measure, cities and towns that come together to form a joint powers agency or similar body with the state to build needed infrastructure could have to put their local project on a statewide ballot.

That means voters in faraway regions could veto some local projects your community needs and supports – like water storage or bridge safety repairs – even though those voters don't use or care about your local improvements.

## NO EXEMPTION FOR EMERGENCIES OR NATURAL DISASTERS

California Professional Firefighters, representing 30,000 firefighters and paramedics, warns: *"Prop 53 irresponsibly fails to contain an exemption for natural disasters or major emergencies. That flaw could delay our state's ability to rebuild*

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*critical infrastructure following earthquakes, wildfires, floods or other natural or man-made disasters."*

#### THREATENS WATER SUPPLY AND DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS

The Association of California Water Agencies says: *"Prop 53 could threaten a wide range of local water projects including storage, desalination, recycling and other vital projects to protect our water supply and access to clean, safe drinking water. Prop 53 will definitely impede our ability to prepare for future droughts."*

#### JEOPARDIZES ABILITY TO REPAIR OUTDATED INFRASTRUCTURE

Our communities already suffer from a massive backlog of local infrastructure needs, including improving water supply and delivery, making safety repairs to bridges, overpasses and freeways, and renovating community hospitals to make them earthquake safe. Prop 53 will jeopardize local communities' ability to repair aging infrastructure.

The California State Sheriffs' Association says: *"Reliable infrastructure is critical to public safety. This measure erodes local control and creates new hurdles that could block communities from upgrading critical infrastructure such as bridges, water systems and hospitals."*

FINANCED AND PROMOTED BY MULTI-MILLIONAIRE WITH A PERSONAL  
AGENDA

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This measure is financed entirely by one multi-millionaire and his family, who are spending millions in an attempt to disrupt a single water infrastructure project. Irrespective of one's position on that single project, his initiative has far-reaching, negative implications for other infrastructure projects throughout California. We cannot allow one multi-millionaire to abuse the initiative system to push his narrow personal agenda.

OPPOSED BY A BROAD BI-PARTISAN COALITION:

- California Professional Firefighters
- California State Sheriffs' Association
- Association of California Water Agencies
- League of California Cities
- California Hospital Association
- California Chamber of Commerce

Prop 53 is a misguided measure that:

- Erodes local control by requiring a statewide vote on some local projects.
- Disrupts our ability to build critically needed water storage and supply.
- Contains no exemptions for emergencies/natural disasters.

[www.NoProp53.com](http://www.NoProp53.com)

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Lou Paulson, President, California Professional Firefighters

Tim Quinn, Executive Director, Association of California Water Agencies

Mark Ghilarducci, Director, California Office of Emergency Services

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